

# St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Established 1920



December 7, 2025

## St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Website: [stjosephclaremont.org](http://stjosephclaremont.org)  
Email: [stjosephclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephclaremont@gmail.com)  
603-542-5732

### Pastor, Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

Pastor's Mailing Address:  
32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743  
[sebaafri@comcast.net](mailto:sebaafri@comcast.net)  
1-603-504-5430

**Parish Finance Council**  
Rick Logan, Chairman  
David Smith, Sharon Wood

**Music Director**  
Richard Brown

### Sunday, December 7, 9:15 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent

For the souls (†) of Roger Sheehan and Bill Matthews  
requested by the Sheehan family

### Monday, December 8, 5:30 p.m. Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

For the soul (†) of Tomasz Wilczoch  
requested by his mother

Wednesday, December 10, 5:00 pm  
For the people

### Sunday, December 14, 9:15 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent

For the soul (†) of Carol Braga  
requested by the Braga family


**Today's 2nd Collection is for Fuel**

<b>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025</b>		<b>80 Souls</b>
Offertory		\$566.00
Church Maintenance		\$440.00
Christmas flowers		\$125.00
Votive Candles		\$20.00
Marian Candelabrum		\$10.00
Turkey Party Fundraiser		\$1,921.00
<b>11-23-25 TOTAL AT MASS</b>		<b>\$3,082.00</b>
<b>PARISH GIVING ONLINE</b>		
Offertory		\$209.91
Fuel		\$99.49
<b>TOTAL ONLINE</b>		<b>\$309.40</b>
<b>TOTAL MASS and ONLINE</b>		<b>\$3,391.40</b>


<b>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025</b>		<b>64 Souls</b>
Offertory		\$1,135.10
Christmas Craft Fair Fundraiser		\$338.00
Christmas flowers		\$260.00
Votive Candles		\$10.00
<b>11-30-25 TOTAL AT MASS</b>		<b>\$1,743.10</b>
<b>PARISH GIVING ONLINE</b>		
Offertory		\$242.27
Church Maintenance		\$19.60
<b>TOTAL ONLINE</b>		<b>\$261.87</b>
<b>TOTAL MASS and ONLINE</b>		<b>\$2,004.97</b>

**UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS**  
**Dec. 14:** Retirement Fund for Religious  
**Dec. 21:** No 2nd Collection  
**Dec. 25:** Special Collection for Fuel  
**Dec. 28:** Church Maintenance

**ONGOING COLLECTION**  
**Grand Annual Fund**  
 October 2025 - October 2026  
 \$2,520.00



**New Hampshire Catholic Appeal:**  
 Future of Our Faith II,  
*Jesus, I trust in You*




Our parish continues to work toward raising this year's goal of **\$9,116.00** for the NHCA. Thanks to the generosity of 24 parish families and the refund of \$1,000 raised over our 2024 goal, we have now raised \$5,806.00 with a pledge of an additional \$20 for a total of **\$5,826.00**. This represents **64%** of our goal. If you have not donated yet to the appeal, please consider doing so now. Envelopes are at the back of the church. Please make checks payable to NHCA and that they are correctly written. You may also make your gift by using the QR code above or by going online to [www.catholicnh.org/nhca](http://www.catholicnh.org/nhca).

**PLEASE MAKE SURE**  
**all checks are correctly written.**  
 Check the date, the amount of the check (both words and numerals) and that it is signed.  
 Thank you!



The Sanctuary Lamp burns 24/7 near the tabernacle in all Catholic Churches in honor of the True Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. **It burns today in memory of Frank and Vera Jones** requested by Halford and Emelda Jones.



**Mass and Sanctuary Lamp Intentions may be scheduled in the Church Hall after Sunday Mass.**

**Mass stipend for Priest: \$10**

**Suggested donation for Candle Intentions: \$10.00.**

Our Marian Candelabrum will be lit on Dec. 9, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception **in memory of Stuart Stone** requested by his wife Mary.



## Feast Days and Memorials

### December 7: Second Sunday of Advent (Peace)

Advent Candles, shining brightly in the midst of darkness, are symbols that remind us of Jesus, who came as Light into our dark world. During this 2nd week of Advent, the "Candle of Peace" (also called the Bethlehem Candle) is lit. Let us reflect on our lives and orient ourselves toward Christ's coming, preparing our hearts to receive Him anew.

### December 8: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This holy day was established on December 8, 1854 when Pope Pius IX pronounced in *Ineffabilis Deus* that the Blessed Virgin Mary was given the grace to be sinless at the instant of her conception. He proclaimed, "The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin."

### December 10: Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto

Patron of aircraft pilots and crews, aviation, and construction workers

The title 'Our Lady of Loreto' refers to the Holy House of Loreto, the house in which Mary was born and the archangel Gabriel appeared to her. It was moved from Nazareth to other European locations before finally settling in Loreto, Italy. It was the first internationally renowned shrine dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and is the third largest in Europe, next to Lourdes and Fatima.

### December 11: St Damasus I, Pope, 306-384

Damasus was elected Pope when he was a sixty-year-old deacon. His reign was marked by violence because of a rival group that fought to overthrow him in favor of another candidate. Although his Papacy was marked by continued struggle, Pope Damasus left his mark with accomplishments that have lasted longer than his opponents. He was responsible for changing the liturgical language of the Church from Greek to Latin, and commissioned Saint Jerome to translate the Scriptures into Latin. He worked hard to preserve and restore the catacombs, the graves of the martyrs, and relics. He is also known for his epigrams (short sayings in verse) about martyrs and saints.

### December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Patron of the Americas

On December 9, 1531, in Mexico, Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego, a humble Aztec Indian who had recently converted to the Catholic faith. She asked him to go to the Bishop to ask for a church to be built on Tepeyac Hill. As proof that he had truly seen her, she told him to pick beautiful roses that were growing on the hill, despite the rocky ground and winter cold. The image that we know as Our Lady of Guadalupe was imprinted on his cloak by the flowers as he carried them to the Bishop. St. Juan Diego was the first Roman Catholic indigenous saint from the Americas.

### December 13: St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr, 283-304

Patron of the blind and of eyesight

Lucia, whose name can mean "light" or "lucid," was a young Christian woman in the early 4th century who lived in Syracuse, a city on the Italian island of Sicily. She was martyred during the persecution of Christians under the reign of Diocletian. Refusing an arranged marriage with a pagan, Lucy prayed to St. Agatha to cure her mother's illness and persuade her to allow her daughter to commit her life to God. The rejected bridegroom reported to the governor that she was a Christian, and he ordered that she be tortured and executed.

[www.catholic.org/](http://www.catholic.org/)

<https://mycatholic.life/>



Tomorrow, Monday, December 8  
is the Solemnity of the  
Immaculate Conception,  
a Holyday of Obligation.

Masses will be at  
9:00 am at St. Mary Church  
5:30 pm at St. Joseph Church



### December 7 - 13, 2025

**Sunday** Is 11: 1-10; Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 18; Rom 15: 4-10; Mt 3: 1-13

**Monday** Gen 3: 9-15, 20; Ps 98: 1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12; Lk 1: 26-38

**Tuesday** Is 40: 1-11; Ps 96: 1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18: 12-14

**Wednesday** Is 40: 25-31; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11: 28-30

**Thursday** Is 41: 13-20; Ps 145: 1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11: 11-15

**Friday** Zec 2: 14-17; Jdt 13: 18bcd, 19; Lk 1: 26-38

**Saturday** Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17: 9a, 10-13



### The Traveling Statue of Mary Program

is a program of the New Hampshire State Council of the  
Knights of Columbus.

Parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Mary Churches are encouraged  
to welcome the statue into their home for a week or two and gather  
family, friends or neighbors to pray the rosary together.

### Christmas Flower Fund

Envelopes are available at the back of  
the church for donations for  
Christmas altar flowers.  
Please write your memorial intentions  
clearly on the envelopes so the  
names can be listed in our bulletin  
during the Christmas season.



Fr. John Loughnane  
 Mandy Albanese  
 John Arsenault  
 Mark Baril  
 Ashley Booher  
 Brooke  
 Jean Brown  
 John Casey  
 Elissa Coburn  
 April Colle  
 Chris Currier  
 Eva Jane Demers  
 Jean Drena  
 Emma  
 Frank Fahey  
 Betty Gierko  
 Carol Girard  
 Isabella Gowell  
 Gianna Gregorutti  
 Stephen Grogan  
 Betty Hayward  
 Deborah Hemingway  
 Christine Hunter

Annette Lambert Huntington  
 Samuel Januszewski  
 Kallie Knight  
 Tina Lange  
 Carol Logan  
 The Lord family  
 Matt  
 Michael  
 Karen Ouellette  
 Linda Patch  
 Brenda Ruest  
 Janet Ruest  
 Nancy Ruest  
 Paul Ruest  
 Sonya Sheehan  
 Joan Silver  
 Bob St. Aubin  
 Darlene St. Aubin  
 Barbara Trask  
 Janice Vilgats  
 Daniel Walsh  
 Joshua White  
 Lawrence Woodward

To add a name to our Prayer List, please ask the person's permission first, then call Sharon Wood at 603-542-6454 or email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Joan Baillargeon, Jeffrey Allen Thibodeau, Sr., Becky Trombley and Patricia Girard.



Thank you to all who helped with this year's Christmas Craft Fair and the vendors who participated!



**Hymns for  
the Second Sunday of Advent**

**Entrance Hymn:** Choir

**Offertory Hymn: No. 196**  
"O Come, Divine Messiah"

**Communion: (Choir)**

**Recessional Hymn: No.194**  
"On Jordan's Bank"



**MASS READINGS  
A/480**

**Memorial Acclamation**  
"We proclaim  
your death, O Lord, and  
profess your  
resurrection until you  
come again."

**CONFESSIONS**

**St. Mary Church**

**Friday 9:30 am**

**Saturday 3:00 to 3:45 pm**



**CHOIR REHEARSAL**

**Saturday, Dec. 13, 2024 1:00pm**

**All are welcome to Join!**

**Roman Catholic Homebound  
Ministry**

Homebound visits are made on the sec-  
ond Monday of every month. Father is

assisted by one of the

Lay Ministers of the Holy Eucharist:  
Steve Denis, Jackie Merrill, Bill Pamplin,  
Gary Lambert.

If you or someone you know would like to  
receive a visit from Father Sebastian,  
please call

Steve Denis at (603) 558-5209

**Diocesan Vocation Awareness**

Are you called to be  
"A herald's voice in the desert"  
preparing the way of the Lord in the  
hearts of His people?

If you are considering a vocation to the  
priesthood or consecrated life, contact  
the Vocation Office  
(603) 663- 0196 or email:  
[cmartel@rcbm.org](mailto:cmartel@rcbm.org)



**COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASS**

**Next Sunday, December 14**

**All are Welcome**

**No Charge**

**Free Will Offering**

**Please Bring Something to Share**

**Winter Weather Cancellations**

If it becomes necessary to cancel  
the Wednesday afternoon Mass,  
choir rehearsal, or other church  
events because of the weather, we  
will again post the cancellation on  
the WMUR-TV notification system.  
Please check their website or  
on-air broadcast for our listing.

If you use email and would like to be  
placed on the Parish email list to re-  
ceive timely updates to our church  
schedule, please send us an email.  
[stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)

**EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

**5pm today for Dec. 14th**

**5pm Thurs. Dec. 11 for Dec. 21**  
**(Christmas bulletin)**

**5pm Wed. Dec. 17 for Dec. 28**

[stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)  
or call Sharon Wood at 603-542-6454

Our current bulletin may be viewed online  
at  
<https://www.jpcc.net/onlinebulletins/>



**CDA Court #892**  
**Christmas Luncheon**  
**Sunday, December 14**  
**St. Joseph Church Hall**



**Knights of  
Columbus  
Council 1820  
Meeting**

**Monday, Dec. 8 at 7pm**  
**St Mary's Gym**  
**Knights Room**



**Opłatki for Christmas**

Packages of embossed white Polish wafers traditionally  
used at the Christmas Eve dinner (Wigilia)

Two package sizes: \$3 & \$5

Available in the church hall after Mass  
email [stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com) or  
call Sharon Wood at 603-542- 5732.

**2026 Calendars**

Our English/Polish  
calendars are available at  
the back of the church.

**Dziękuję Bardzo!**  
**(Thank You Very Much!)**  
to our

**Calendar Sponsor,**  
**Knights of Columbus Council**

**The Area Choir**

final concerts are this afternoon  
and evening at

3:00pm and 7:00 pm

South Congregational Church,  
20 Church Street, Newport  
All are welcome to attend this  
annual Christmas Concert.

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St. Jude,  
Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!



**Bonnie Miles**  
Associate Broker

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